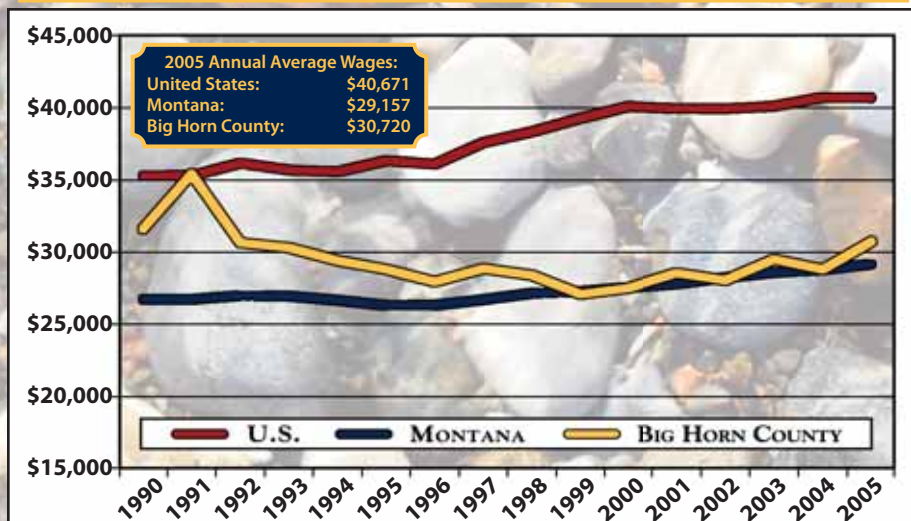


## Annual Average Labor Force - Big Horn County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2005	5,368	4,913	455	8.5%
2004	5,068	4,624	444	8.8%
2003	4,928	4,383	545	11.1%
2002	4,937	4,401	536	10.9%
2001	5,103	4,495	608	11.9%
2000	5,446	4,933	513	9.4%

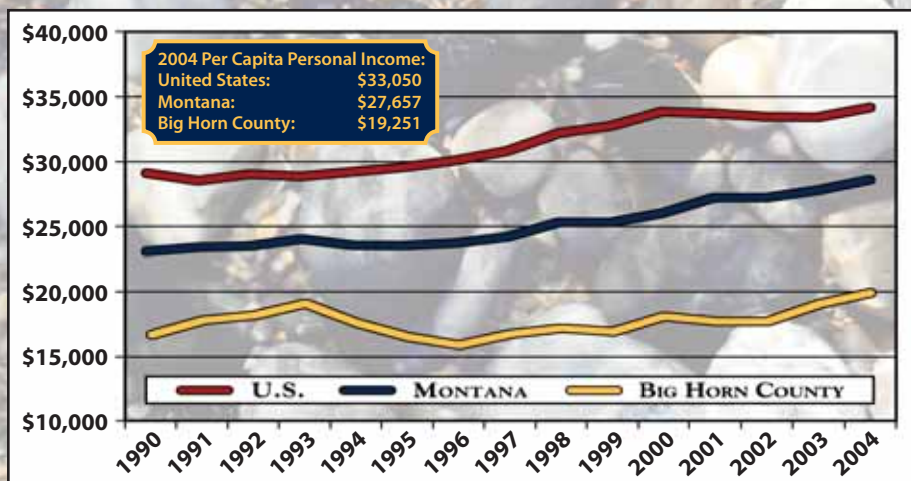
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

## Annual Average Wages, 1990 to 2005 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2004 (In 2005 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

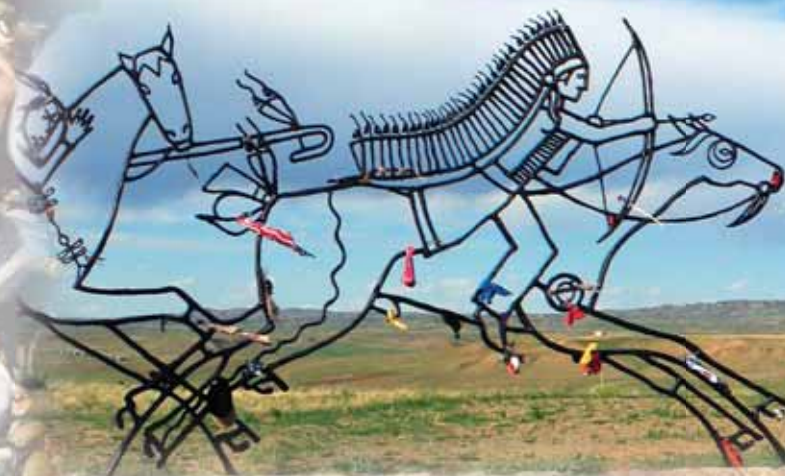


Photo courtesy of MontanaPictures.net

## Demographic & Economic Information for Big Horn County



Big Horn  
County



**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU**

Research & Analysis Bureau - Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
 P.O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728 - Ph: (406) 444-2430  
 or Toll-free: (800) 541-3904 - Fax: (406) 444-2638  
 E-mail: [webmasterrad@mt.gov](mailto:webmasterrad@mt.gov) - Website: [www.ourfactyourfuture.org](http://www.ourfactyourfuture.org)



Census and Economic Information Center - Montana Department of Commerce  
 P.O. Box 200505 - Helena, MT 59620-0505 - Ph: (406) 841-2740 - Fax: (406) 841-2731  
 E-mail: [ceic@mt.gov](mailto:ceic@mt.gov) - Website: [www.ceic.mt.gov](http://www.ceic.mt.gov)



## BIG HORN COUNTY

Big Horn County is Montana's fourteenth most populous county, with an estimated 13,149 residents in 2005. Hardin, the county seat, is the state's 22nd largest city, with a population estimated at 3,510 in 2005.<sup>1</sup> Other cities and towns in Big Horn County include Busby, Crow Agency, Fort Smith, Garryowen, Lodge Grass, Pryor, St. Xavier, and Wyola. The majority of Big Horn County lies within the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations.

Coal Mining and Agriculture both play major roles in Big Horn County's economy. Farms and ranches in the county produce mainly beef cattle, sugar beets, alfalfa, and small grains.<sup>2</sup>

Big Horn County is the location of the famous Little Big Horn Battlefield National Monument, and the annual "Custer's Last Stand Reenactment," which draws Montanans and out-of-state visitors to witness the tale of the Battle of the Little Bighorn told from the Indian perspective. Big Horn County also boasts the Big Horn Canyon National Recreation Area, which is known for its world class trout fishing.

Public Administration was Big Horn County's number one industry subsector in terms of employment in 2005. The other significant subsectors included Educational Services, Construction, and Mining. The fastest employment growth from 2004 to 2005 took place in the Construction, Transportation & Warehousing, Accommodation & Food Services, and Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation subsectors.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

<sup>2</sup>MSU extension in Big Horn County, <http://extn.msu.montana.edu/counties/bighorn.htm>

<sup>3</sup>Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program

## Resources for Big Horn County

### Chamber of Commerce

Hardin Area Chamber of Commerce  
10 East Railway  
Hardin, MT 59034  
(406) 665-1672  
[www.hardinmt.com/chamberedc.html](http://www.hardinmt.com/chamberedc.html)

### Newspaper

Big Horn County News  
P. O. Box 926  
Hardin, MT 59034  
Phone: (406) 665-1008  
[www.bighorncountynews.com](http://www.bighorncountynews.com)

### Job Service Workforce Center

Billings Job Service Workforce Center  
2121-B Rosebud Drive  
Billings, MT 59102  
Phone: 406-652-3080  
Fax: 406-652-0444  
E-mail [billingsjsc@mt.gov](mailto:billingsjsc@mt.gov)  
[www.wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/billings](http://www.wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/billings)

### Economic Development

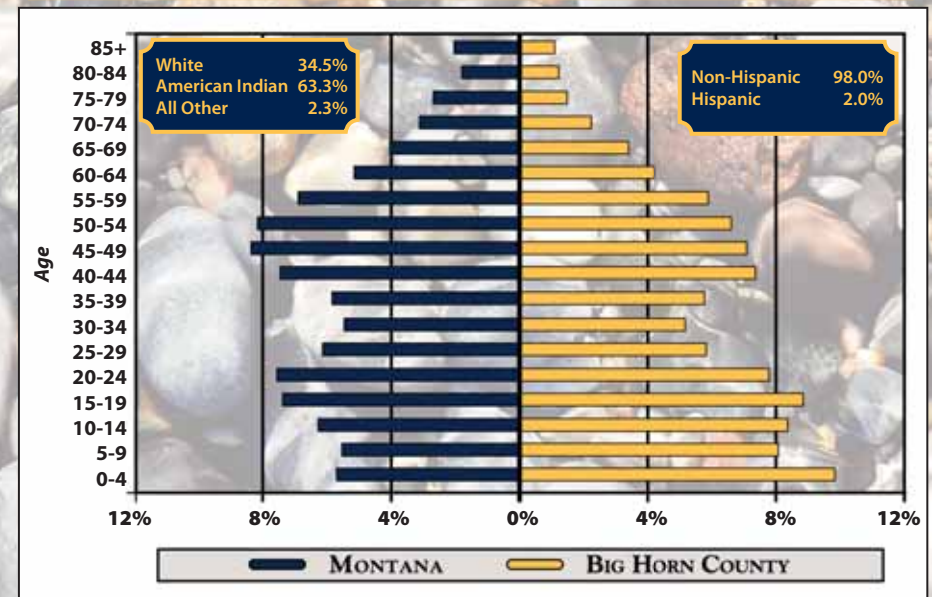
City of Hardin Economic Development Office  
Phone: (406) 665-9269  
E-mail: [edo@hardinmt.com](mailto:edo@hardinmt.com)

## Population for Big Horn County & Related Areas

	Total Population					
	Census	Estimates				
Geography	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Montana	902,195	906,098	910,395	917,885	926,920	935,670
Big Horn County	12,671	12,817	12,829	12,897	13,076	13,149
Hardin	3,384	3,417	3,420	3,446	3,503	3,510
Lodge Grass	510	515	515	517	523	522
Balance of Big Horn County	8,777	8,885	8,894	8,934	9,050	9,117

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

## Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Big Horn County, 2005



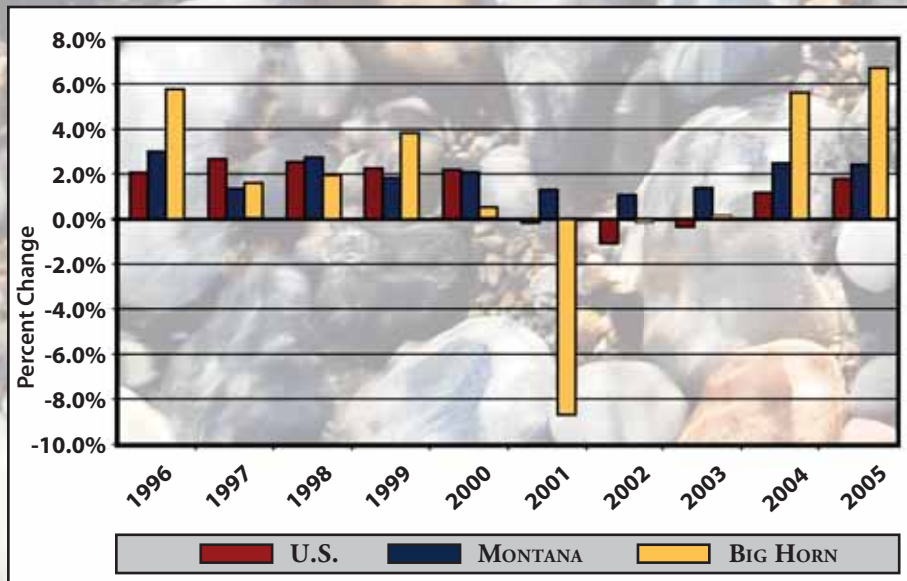
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 Population Estimates

## Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Big Horn County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	23.6%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	30.2%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	26.1%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	5.8%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	10.1%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	2.7%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	0.9%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	0.7%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Percent Change in Employment: 1996 to 2005 U.S., Montana, and Big Horn County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Top 10 Private Employers in Big Horn County (Based on 2nd Quarter 2006 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
Awe Kualawaache Care Center	4	Kennecott Energy Co. Spring Creek Mine	6
Big Horn County Memorial Hospital	6	Little Horn State Bank	4
Big Horn IGA	4	McDonald's	4
Decker Coal Company	6	Washington Group International (Sarpy Creek)	6
Farmers Union Association	4		
Heritage Acres Nursing Home	4		

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW) This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

## Agricultural Statistics - Big Horn County

### Farms

<b>Farms: (number)</b>	584
Land in farms (acres)	2,811,337
Average size of farms (acres)	4,814
<b>Farms by size: (number)</b>	
Less than 1,000 acres	317
1,000 acres or more	267
<b>Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)</b>	
Less than \$100,000	426
\$100,000 or more	158
<b>Farms by type of organization: (number)</b>	
Family, Individual, Partnership	525
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	59

### Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

<b>Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)</b>	
Cattle and calves	87,736
Hogs and pigs	(D)
Sheep and lambs	1,519
Horses and ponies	4,081
Bison	2,149
Chickens (layers and broilers)	(D)
<b>Crops Harvested (acres)</b>	
Corn for grain	327
Corn for silage or greenchop	3,158
Wheat for grain, All	85,192
Winter wheat for grain	64,683
Durum wheat for grain	0
Spring wheat for grain	20,509
Barley for grain	12,641
Oats for grain	568
Sunflower seed, All	0
Soybeans for beans	(D)
Hay, haylage, grass silage	59,136

### Operator Demographics

<b>Primary occupation: (number)</b>	
Farming	392
Other	192
<b>Place of residence: (number)</b>	
On farm operated	463
Not on farm operated	121
<b>Years on present farm: (number)</b>	
Less than 10 years	147
10 years or more	437
<b>Age group: (number)</b>	
Under 55 years	303
55 years and over	281
<b>Average age of operators: (number)</b>	54.2

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002  
(D) - Not Disclosable



# Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2005 - Big Horn County

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	284	4,443	\$30,720
TOTAL PRIVATE	238	2,199	\$33,033
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	17	70	\$22,212
Crop production	6	30	\$18,398
Animal production	9	34	\$24,128
Agriculture & forestry support	3	6	\$31,013
MINING	8	386	\$62,449
Oil and gas extraction	2	*	*
Mining, except oil and gas	4	278	\$63,556
Support activities for mining	2	*	*
UTILITIES	3	*	*
CONSTRUCTION	29	391	\$57,634
Construction of buildings	6	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	5	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	19	357	\$56,563
MANUFACTURING	3	19	\$25,886
Chemical manufacturing	1	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	2	*	*
WHOLESALE TRADE	7	69	\$25,152
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	7	69	\$25,152
RETAIL TRADE	38	325	\$14,853
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	4	49	\$27,567
Electronics and appliance stores	1	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	4	17	\$14,788
Food and beverage stores	7	92	\$15,694
Gasoline stations	8	80	\$11,006
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1	*	*
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	3	11	\$14,461
General merchandise stores	2	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	7	53	\$8,764
Nonstore retailers	1	*	*
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	13	54	\$19,728
Truck transportation	7	16	\$24,071
Transit and ground passenger transport	3	*	*
Pipeline transportation	1	*	*
Support activities for transportation	2	*	*

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
INFORMATION	6	28	\$12,006
Publishing industries, except Internet	1	*	*
Motion picture, sound recording industry	1	*	*
Telecommunications	3	*	*
ISPs, search portals, & data processing	1	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	9	84	\$29,696
Credit intermediation & related activity	3	58	\$33,887
Insurance carriers & related activities	6	26	\$20,327
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	7	16	\$19,156
Real estate	7	16	\$19,156
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	20	62	\$27,007
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	4	9	\$10,137
Administrative and support services	3	*	*
Waste management and remediation service	1	*	*
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3	*	*
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	12	222	\$21,515
Ambulatory health care services	4	14	\$18,915
Hospitals	1	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	1	*	*
Social assistance	6	29	\$15,927
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	12	93	\$16,973
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	2	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	10	*	*
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	27	294	\$10,039
Accommodation	12	73	\$12,256
Food services and drinking places	15	221	\$9,310
OTHER SERVICES	21	46	\$16,631
Repair and maintenance	6	13	\$20,601
Personal and laundry services	5	12	\$18,848
Membership associations & organizations	7	17	\$12,606
Private households	3	4	\$14,459
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	46	2,245	\$28,454
Local Government	17	1,697	\$22,835
State Government	11	50	\$32,817
Federal Government	18	497	\$47,197

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)  
 \* Data Not Disclosable

The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance.  
 (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)